

What is the MACC?

So you've heard about the MACC, but want to know more. First, let's start with the purpose.

MACC Purpose - The MACC provides a forum for open exchange and discussion about boat and craft between Government agencies and the maritime community.

(1) The primary focus is the dialog between the DoD and other Government agencies on common issues unique to boats and craft in their service. The types of craft discussed range from Army & Navy service craft, Navy and Coast Guard patrol boats, to Naval Special Warfare and Marine Corps combatant craft. Craft types include RIB's, patrol and insertion craft, landing craft, utility craft and special purpose craft.

(2) The conference serves as a way to capitalize on the joint nature of today's military environment. No service can afford to re-learn lessons that another service has already solved, whether it pertains to operations and tactics, an equipment solution, maintenance practices, or evaluating and implementing new technology. Each organization has a valuable corporate background that can greatly assist other activities. The conference leverages larger returns from the combined efforts of the relatively small boat communities in each service. Within each service, boats and craft remain low on the funding priority list and the conference helps prevent different agencies from expending funds solving a common problem.

(3) The MACC is a conference, not an exhibition. While an exhibition hall is offered, it is a secondary aspect of the conference. Two quotes from past attendees summarize this aspect of the conference well:

"The fact that this was not geared for vendors was superb. We want the vendors to support DOD and as such they should be encouraged to hear service related issues..."

"It is an exceptional opportunity for the military and commercial communities to meet and discuss where the military is going and what its future needs may be. It also brings commercial firms together that may cooperate on joint projects to be able to provide the military with what it really needs and wants."

Industry participants are a vital part of the MACC. Industry participants are not treated simply as exhibitors, but rather as attendees and their participation in the discussions is encouraged.